# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

)
)
)
) CIVIL ACTION FILE
)
) NO.
)
)
)

# **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

COME NOW, Defendants, PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC AND KEVIN JAMESON (hereinafter "Defendants"), and within the time prescribed by law, file this Notice of Removal, by and through their undersigned counsel, pursuant to 28 U. S. C. §§ 1441 and 1446, and respectfully show the Court the following facts:

1.

Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa ("Plaintiff") filed suit against Defendants in the State Court of Gwinnett County, which county is within the Atlanta Division of this Court. The suit has been commenced as Gwinnett County State Court Civil Action File number 16C01715-S2.

2.

The suit seeks to recover for an allegation violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act "(FLSA") set forth at 29 USC § 201 et seq.

3.

The Court has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U. S. C. § 1331 as it involves a federal question and, accordingly, is one which may be removed to this Court by Defendants pursuant to the provisions of 28 U. S. C. § 1441, in that the claim in this civil action involves a federal question.

4.

Defendants show that Plaintiff's suit was filed on March 30, 2016 in the State Court of Gwinnett County and served upon Defendants on June 20, 2016. This Notice of Removal is filed within thirty (30) days from the date Defendants were served with the Summons and Complaint and is, therefore, proper under 28 USC § 1446.

7.

Defendants have attached hereto copies of all summons, process, pleadings, and orders served upon it in this case, such copies being marked Exhibit "A."

8.

Defendants have given written notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal to the Plaintiff. Defendants have filed a written notice with the Clerk of the State Court of Gwinnett County, a copy of said notice is attached as Exhibit "B."

9.

WHEREFORE, Defendants pray the case proceed in this Court as a removed claim or cause of action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 *et. seq.* 

This 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

# SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP

By: /s/ Anandhi S. Rajan Anandhi S. Rajan

Georgia Bar No. 59760

Ashley D. Alfonso

Georgia State Bar No. 195484 Attorney for Defendants Pure Air

Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson

The Peachtree, Suite 300 1355 Peachtree Street, N.E.

Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3231 Telephone: (404) 874-8800

Facsimile: (404) 888-6199

Anandhi.rajan@swiftcurrie.com

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# IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

YSAIAS ESPINOSA

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 16-C-01715-S2

**PLAINTIFF** 

VS.

PURE AIR FILTRATION LLC KEVIN JAMESON

**DEFENDANT** 

#### **SUMMONS**

#### TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of Said Court and serve upon the Plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address is:

BRIAN GENE KIM 1815 SATELLITE BLVD SUITE 303 LEON & KIM LLC DULUTH, GA 30097

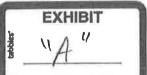
an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This 30th day of March, 2016.

Richard T. Alexander, Jr. Clerk of State Court

Deputy Clerk

Instructions: Attach addendum sheet for additional parties if needed, make notation on this sheet if addendum sheet is used. SC-1 Rev. 85



FILED IN OFFICE CLERK STATE COURT GWINNETT COUNTY, GA

# IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA 2016 MAR 30 PH 1: 03

YSAIAS ESPINOSA	) RICHARD ALEXANDER, CLERK
Plaintiff,	Civil Action No.: 166 01715-2
v.	)
PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC, and KEVIN JAMESON	) )
Defendants.	) JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### **COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

#### I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

ì.

This Court has personal jurisdiction of this action because the defendant Pure Air Filtration, LLC's principal place of business is within the Gwinnett County.

2.

Venue in the Gwinnett County is proper because Defendant Pure Air Filtration, LLC resides and/or conducts business in Gwinnett County and the claim for relief arose in this district.

3.

This Court has subject matter jurisdiction because this case is an action under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 201 et seq. (FLSA), and federal court does not have exclusive jurisdiction over the FLSA.

#### II. PARTIES

#### **PLAINTIFF**

4.

The Plaintiff is Ysaias Espinosa, who is an individual and resident of DeKalb County,

Georgia.

5.

At all times relevant to this action Plaintiff was "engaged in commerce" and was an "employee" of Defendants within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 203(e), 206, and 207.

#### **DEFENDANTS**

6.

The Defendant is Pure Air Filtration, LLC is a limited liability company. Defendant is located at 6050 Peachtree Parkway, Gwinnett County, Georgia 30092.

7.

The Defendant, Pure Air Filtration, LLC is and was at all times relevant to this action an "employer" within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d), an "enterprise" within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(r), and "engaged in commerce" within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(s)(1), 206, and 207.

8.

The Defendant, Kevin Jameson is an individual and the president of Pure Air Filtration, LLC.

#### III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

9.

The Plaintiff adopts, incorporate by reference, and re-allege paragraphs 1 through 8 of this Complaint for Damages as if originally set forth fully herein.

10.

The Defendant Pure Air Filtration, LLC is and was at all times relevant to this action and

acted directly or indirectly as Plaintiff's employer.

11.

The Defendant, Kevin Jameson, as president of Pure Air Filtration, LLC, upon information and belief, asserts control over the operation and employment issues of Defendant, Pure Air Filtration, LLC.

12.

Upon information and belief Defendants have more than twenty (20) employees who handle, sell, or otherwise work on goods or materials that have been moved in or produced for commerce.

13.

Upon information and belief Defendants have gross revenues in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per year.

14.

Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa was employed as a machine/chemical operator by Defendants from February 2011 to July 2014.

15.

From on or about September 15, 2011 until July 15, 2014, Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa worked for Defendants at an hourly rate of \$11.00 per hour.

16.

Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa worked an average of sixty (60) hours per week from on or about February 1, 2011 until on or about July 31, 2014.

17.

Plaintiff had no written contract of employment with Defendants.

18.

At all relevant times to this action, Defendants did not pay Plaintiff on a salary basis. He was paid at his regular hourly rate for hours worked.

19.

Upon information and belief Defendants paid all of his employees, other than Plaintiff, overtime premiums.

IV.

#### **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

#### FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

20.

The Plaintiff adopt, incorporate by reference, and re-allege paragraphs 1 through 8 and 10 through 19 of this Complaint for Damages as if originally set forth fully herein.

21.

At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff was an hourly employee and was non-exempt from the overtime pay requirements as afforded by the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 et seq.

22,

The Plaintiff often worked in excess of fifty (50) hours per week throughout the duration of his employment with Defendants, but he was not paid by Defendants for his overtime work.

23.

The Defendants were required in accordance with the FLSA to pay Plaintiff one and onehalf times his regular hourly rate of pay for his overtime work.

24.

The Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff one and one-half times his regular rate of pay for each hour worked over forty (40) hours in a week. Instead, Defendants only paid Plaintiff his regular hourly rate of pay for hours worked over forty (40) hours in a week.

25.

The Defendants' unlawful acts, omissions, and practices concerning the terms, conditions, and provisions of Plaintiff's employment violate the FLSA.

26.

As a result of Defendants' unlawful acts, omissions, and practices, Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa suffered a loss of wages of \$15,180.00 or such other amount to be determined at trial.

27.

The Defendants' willful violation of the FLSA shows reckless disregard of Plaintiff's right to receive appropriate overtime compensation for his work for Defendant.

#### VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court:

- 1. Grant Plaintiff a trial by jury as to all triable issues of fact;
- 2. Enter Judgment against Defendants, joint and severally liable for an amount equal to Plaintiff's unpaid back wages at the applicable overtime rate for each hour worked over forty (40) hours a week, or \$15,180.00 for Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa, pursuant to the FLSA §§ 6 and 7, 29 U.S.C. §§ 206(d) and 207;
- 3. Enter Judgment against Defendants jointly and severally liable for an equal amount as mandated liquidated damages as provided by 29 U.S.C. § 216;
- 5. Enter Judgment against Defendants jointly and severally liable for pre-judgment interest

on the unpaid wages pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216;

- 6. Order Defendants, jointly and severally liable, to pay all costs of this action as well as reasonable attorney's fees as provided under FLSA § 216;
- Award Plaintiff such further and additional relief as the Court deems just and equitable.
   Respectfully submitted this 30th day of March, 2016.

Leon & Kim, LLC Attorney for Plainliff

Brian Kim

Georgia Bar No. 479330

1815 Satellite Blvd. #303 Duluth, GA 30097

P: 678-878-4200 F: 678-878-4208

E: Brian@leonandkim.com

FILED IN OFFICE CLERK STATE COURT GWINNETT COUNTY, GA

General Civil Case Filing Intor	mation Form (14011-Domailie HAR 30 PH 1: 03
Court County Juinett  Superior State  County Juinett  Docket # 16C 017	Date Filed 03 - 30 - 20 / 6  MM-DD-YYYYICHARD ALEXANDER, CLERE
Plaintiff(s)	Defendant(s)
Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden  Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden	PURE AIR FILTRATION LL C List First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden  Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden
Lass First Middle I. Suffix Profix Maiden	Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden
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No. of Plaintiffs	No. of Defendants 2
Plaintiff/Petitioner's Attorney Pro Se    Pro Se	
Check Primary Type (Check only ONE)	If Tort is Case Type: (Check no more than TWO)
☐ Contract/Account	Auto Accident
□ Wills/Estate	Premises Liability
☐ Real Property	☐ Medical Malpractice
□ Dispossessory/Distress	Other Professional Negligence
☐ Presonal Property	☐ Product Liability
☐ Equity	□ Other Specify
☐ Habeas Corpus	
☐ Appeals, Reviews	Are Punitive Damages Pleaded?   Yes No
□ Post Judgement Garnishment, Attachment, or Other Relief	
□ Non-Domestic Contempt	I hereby certify that the documents in this filing
☐ Tort (If tort, fill in right column)	(including attachments and exhibits) satisfy the
Other General Civil Specify TAND ARCK	requirements for redaction of personal or confidential information in O.C.G.A. 9-11-7.1
STANDARD ACT	

CIVIL ACTION NO. 16C 01715-2  DATE FILED 3/30/16  ATTORNEY OR PLAINTIFF(6), ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER	[ ] MAGISTRATE [ ] SUPERIOR - COURT GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA
BRIAN KIM  1815 Satellite Blud. # 303  Duluty, GA 30097  678) 878- 4200  NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE # OF PARTY TO BE SERVED	PLAINTIFF(S) VS.  PULL ATL TO HEATTH, LLC  KATH JAHFSON  DEFENDANT(S)
Keim Jamason	GARNISHEE  CARNISHEE  CARNISHEE  Other strached documents to be served:
November 64 3009) 678) 935 — 143   SHERIFF'S EN HAVE THIS DAY SERVED THE WITHIN ACTION AND SUMMONS AS FOL	ITRY OF SERVICE
PERSONAL Upon the following named defendant:      NOTORIOUS Upon defendant  By leaving a copy of the action and summons at the most notorious	Tipog of shoots in the country
Delivered the same to	described as follows: approximate age
yrs; approximate weight pounds; approximate height	feet andinches, domiciled at residence of the defendant.
[ ] CORPORATION Upon corporation	20 IS
By serving place of business of the corporation in this county.	in charge of the office and
By serving	Lits registered agent.
[ ] TACK & MAIL By posting a copy of the same to the door of the same day of such posting, by depositing a true copy of the same in the addressed to the defendant(s) at the address shown in the summons at the place stated in the summons.	he United States mall First Class mail, in an envelope properly
[ NON EST Old not serve because after a diligent search the de	,
Chapte to locate Des a	
This day ofApril	

# IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

YSAIAS ESPINOSA

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 16-C-01715-S2

**PLAINTIFF** 

VS.

PURE AIR FILTRATION LLC KEVIN JAMESON

**DEFENDANT** 

#### **SUMMONS**

#### TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of Said Court and serve upon the Plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address is:

BRIAN GENE KIM 1815 SATELLITE BLVD SUITE 303 LEON & KIM LLC DULUTH, GA 30097

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This 13th day of June, 2016.

Richard T. Alexander, Jr. Clerk of State Court

Deputy Clerk

Instructions: Attach addendum sheet for additional parties if needed, make notation on this sheet if addendum sheet is used. SC-1 Rev. 85

FILED IN OFFICE CLERK STATE COURT GWYNEET COUNTY, GA

2015 JUL 19 PM 12: 18

# IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

YSAIAS ESPINOSA,	
Plaintiff,	
)	CIVIL ACTION FILE
v. )	
	NO. 16-C-01715-S2
PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC )	
KEVIN JAMESON,	
Defendants.	

# DEFENDANTS' ANSWER AND DEFENSES TO PLAINTIFF'S COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES

COME NOW DEFENDANTS PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC and KEVIN JAMESON ("Defendants") by and through their counsel, and file their Answer and Defenses to Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages, showing the Court as follows:

# FIRST DEFENSE

Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages fails to state a claim upon which relief can be granted.

# SECOND DEFENSE

Plaintiff has failed to plead a prima facie case arising under the FLSA.

# THIRD DEFENSE

Any recovery by Plaintiff should be limited to the extent Plaintiff has failed to mitigate any of the damages alleged in the Complaint.

# **FOURTH DEFENSE**

All or part of Plaintiff's claims are or may be barred by the applicable statutes of limitations.

### **FIFTH DEFENSE**

Plaintiff's claims are barred, in whole or in part, because Plaintiff cannot establish that any acts or omissions of Defendants were willful under the FLSA.

## SIXTH DEFENSE

Plaintiffs' claims are barred, in whole or in part, by the doctrines of waiver, estoppel, unclean hands, and laches.

# SEVENTH DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claims under the FLSA are barred to the extent that Defendants' actions were taken in good faith in conformity with and reliance upon established rulings, administrative regulations, and interpretations of the FLSA within the meaning of 29 U.S.C. § 259 and 29 U.S.C. § 260.

# EIGHTH DEFENSE

Plaintiff is seeking damages that are remote and speculative, and as such, those damages are not recoverable.

### **NINTH DEFENSE**

Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages may be barred on the grounds of res judicata and collateral estoppel.

## TENTH DEFENSE

Plaintiff's claim should be barred because the amount of overtime, if any, is de minimis.

# ELEVENTH DEFENSE

Defendants respond to the individually numbered paragraphs of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages, as follows:

# I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 1 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

2.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 2 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

3.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 3 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

#### II. PARTIES

#### **PLAINTIFF**

4.

Defendants are without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of the allegations set forth in Paragraph 4 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages and can, therefore, neither admit nor deny said allegations.

5.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 5 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

#### **DEFENDANTS**

6.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 6 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

7.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 7 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

Defendants deny, as stated, the allegations set forth in Paragraph 8 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

#### III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

9.

Defendants incorporate herein by reference their responses to Paragraphs 1 through 8 hereinabove, as if set forth fully herein in response to Paragraph 9 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

10.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 10 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

11.

Defendants, deny, as stated the allegations set forth in Paragraph 11 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

12.

Defendants deny the allegations set forth in Paragraph 12 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

13.

Defendants deny, as stated, the allegations set forth in Paragraph 13 of

Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

14.

Defendants deny, as stated, the allegations set forth in Paragraph 14 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

15.

Defendants deny the allegations set forth in Paragraph 15 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

16.

Defendants deny the allegations set forth in Paragraph 16 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

17.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 17 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

18.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 18 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

19.

Defendants deny, as stated, the allegations set forth in Paragraph 19 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

IV.

# **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

### FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

20.

Defendant incorporates herein by reference its responses to Paragraphs 1 through 19 hereinabove, as if set forth fully herein in response to Paragraph 20 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

21.

Defendants admit the allegations set forth in Paragraph 21 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

22.

Defendants deny the allegations set forth in Paragraph 22 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

23.

Defendants deny, as stated, the allegations set forth in Paragraph 23 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages but admit that the FLSA requires overtime work to be compensated at a rate of one and a half times the regular hourly wage, if applicable.

Defendants deny, as stated, the allegations set forth in Paragraph 24 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

25.

Defendants deny the allegations set forth in Paragraph 25 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

26.

Defendants deny the allegations set forth in Paragraph 26 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

27.

Defendants deny the allegations set forth in Paragraph 27 of Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages.

# VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

28.

Responding to the last paragraph and Prayer for Relief beginning "WHEREFORE", Defendants deny all allegations of that Paragraph, including subparagraphs 1 through 7, and deny they are liable to Plaintiff in any sum or manner whatsoever.

To the extent any allegation within Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages is not heretofore admitted or denied, each and every such allegation is hereby denied.

WHEREFORE, having fully answered Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages, Defendants pray:

- (a) that they be discharged without any liability to Plaintiff;
- (b) that they have a trial by jury as to all issues properly triable by a jury;
- (c) that all costs be assessed against Plaintiff; and
- (d) that they obtain such other relief as this Court deems just and appropriate.

This <u>19</u> th day of July, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

By: /s/Anandhi S. Rajan
Anandhi S. Rajan
Georgia State Bar No. 592760
Ashley D. Alfonso
Georgia State Bar No. 195484
Attorneys for Defendants
PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC and
KEVIN JAMESON

SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP The Peachtree, Suite 300 1355 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3231 Telephone: (404) 874-8800 Facsimile: (404) 888-6199

Anandhi.Rajan@swiftcurrie.com

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I do hereby certify that I caused a true and correct copy of the *Defendants'*Answer and *Defenses to Plaintiff's Complaint for Damages* to be served upon all parties through the following counsel of record:

Brian Kim, Esq. Leon & Kim, LLC 1815 Satellite Boulevard, Suite 303 Duluth, GA 30097

This  $\frac{19}{10}$  day of July, 2016.

By: /s/Anandhi S. Rajan
Anandhi S. Rajan
Georgia State Bar No. 592760
Attorneys for Defendants
PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC and
KEVIN JAMESON

SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP The Peachtree, Suite 300 1355 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3231 Telephone: (404) 874-8800

Facsimile: (404) 888-6199

Anandhi.Rajan@swiftcurrie.com

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CL <b>er</b> e state court	ſ
IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY	il
2016 JUL 19 PM 12: 1	
STATE OF GEORGIA	

RICHARD ALEXANDER, CLERK

YSAIAS ESPINOSA,	)	
	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
,	)	<b>CIVIL ACTION FILE</b>
<b>V</b> .	)	
	)	NO. 16C-01715-2
PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC	)	
KEVIN JAMESON,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

# **NOTICE OF FILING NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

COME NOW Defendants Pure Air Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson and hereby, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1446(d), file this its Notice of Filing Notice of Removal of this action from the State Court of Gwinnett County, Georgia, wherein it now pends, to the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Georgia, Atlanta Division. The grounds for this removal are set forth in the Notice of Removal attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

This  $\frac{19}{10}$  day of July, 2016.

SWIFT, CURRIE, MCGHEE & HIERS, LLP

By:

Anandhi S./Rajan

Georgia State Bar No. 592760

1355 Peachtree Street, N.E.



# Case 1:16-cv-02620-WSD Document 1 Filed 07/19/16 Page 25 of 43

Suite 300 Atlanta, Georgia 30309 (404) 874-8800 Attorneys for Defendants Pure Air Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA ATLANTA DIVISION

YSAIAS ESPINOSA,	)	
	)	
	)	
Plaintiff,	)	
~	)	CIVIL ACTION FILE
V.	)	
	)	NO
PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC	)	
KEVIN JAMESON,	)	
	)	
Defendants.	)	

## **NOTICE OF REMOVAL**

COME NOW, Defendants, PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC AND KEVIN JAMESON (hereinafter "Defendants"), and within the time prescribed by law, file this Notice of Removal, by and through their undersigned counsel, pursuant to 28 U. S. C. §§ 1441 and 1446, and respectfully show the Court the following facts:

1.

Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa ("Plaintiff") filed suit against Defendants in the State Court of Gwinnett County, which county is within the Atlanta Division of this Court. The suit has been commenced as Gwinnett County State Court Civil Action File number 16C01715-S2.



2.

The suit seeks to recover for an allegation violation of the Fair Labor Standards Act "(FLSA") set forth at 29 USC § 201 et seq.

3.

The Court has jurisdiction over this action under 28 U. S. C. § 1331 as it involves a federal question and, accordingly, is one which may be removed to this Court by Defendants pursuant to the provisions of 28 U. S. C. § 1441, in that the claim in this civil action involves a federal question.

4.

Defendants show that Plaintiff's suit was filed on March 30, 2016 in the State Court of Gwinnett County and served upon Defendants on June 20, 2016. This Notice of Removal is filed within thirty (30) days from the date Defendants were served with the Summons and Complaint and is, therefore, proper under 28 USC § 1446.

7.

Defendants have attached hereto copies of all summons, process, pleadings, and orders served upon it in this case, such copies being marked Exhibit "A."

8.

Defendants have given written notice of the filing of this Notice of Removal to the Plaintiff. Defendants have filed a written notice with the Clerk of the State Court of Gwinnett County, a copy of said notice is attached as Exhibit "B."

9.

WHEREFORE, Defendants pray the case proceed in this Court as a removed claim or cause of action under 28 U.S.C. § 1331 <u>et</u>. <u>seq</u>.

This 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,

# SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP

By: /s/ Anandhi S. Rajan

Anandhi S. Rajan Georgia Bar No. 59760 Ashley D. Alfonso

Georgia State Bar No. 195484

**Attorney for Defendants Pure Air Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson** 

The Peachtree, Suite 300 1355 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3231 Telephone: (404) 874-8800

Facsimile: (404) 888-6199

Anandhi.rajan@swiftcurrie.com



# IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

YSAIAS ESPINOSA

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 16-C-01715-S2

**PLAINTIFF** 

VS.

PURE AIR FILTRATION LLC KEVIN JAMESON

**DEFENDANT** 

#### **SUMMONS**

#### TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of Said Court and serve upon the Plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address is:

BRIAN GENE KIM 1815 SATELLITE BLVD SUITE 303 LEON & KIM LLC DULUTH, GA 30097

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This 30th day of March, 2016.

Richard T. Alexander, Jr. Clerk of State Court

Deputy Clerk

Instructions: Attach addendum sheet for additional parties if needed, make notation on this sheet if addendum sheet is used. SC-1 Rev. 85

EXHIBIT

FILED IN OFFICE
CLERK STATE COURT
GWINNETT COUNTY, GA

# IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA 2016 MAR 30 PH 1: 03

YSAIAS ESPINOSA	)	RICHARD ALEXANDER, CLERK
Plaintiff,	)	Civil Action No.: 16C 01715-2
<b>V</b> <sub>*</sub> ,.	)	
PURE AIR FILTRATION, LLC, and KEVIN JAMESON	)	9
Defendants.	)	JURY TRIAL DEMANDED

#### **COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

#### I. JURISDICTION AND VENUE

1.

This Court has personal jurisdiction of this action because the defendant Pure Air Filtration, LLC's principal place of business is within the Gwinnett County.

2.

Venue in the Gwinnett County is proper because Defendant Pure Air Filtration, LLC resides and/or conducts business in Gwinnett County and the claim for relief arose in this district.

3.

This Court has subject matter jurisdiction because this case is an action under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, as amended, 29 U.S.C. § 201 *et seq.* (FLSA), and federal court does not have exclusive jurisdiction over the FLSA.

#### II. PARTIES

#### **PLAINTIFF**

4.

The Plaintiff is Ysaias Espinosa, who is an individual and resident of DeKalb County,

Georgia.

5.

At all times relevant to this action Plaintiff was "engaged in commerce" and was an "employee" of Defendants within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 203(e), 206, and 207.

#### **DEFENDANTS**

6.

The Defendant is Pure Air Filtration, LLC is a limited liability company. Defendant is located at 6050 Peachtree Parkway, Gwinnett County, Georgia 30092.

7.

The Defendant, Pure Air Filtration, LLC is and was at all times relevant to this action an "employer" within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(d), an "enterprise" within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. § 203(r), and "engaged in commerce" within the meaning of FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 203(s)(1), 206, and 207.

8.

The Defendant, Kevin Jameson is an individual and the president of Pure Air Filtration, LLC.

#### III. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

9.

The Plaintiff adopts, incorporate by reference, and re-allege paragraphs 1 through 8 of this Complaint for Damages as if originally set forth fully herein.

10.

The Defendant Pure Air Filtration, LLC is and was at all times relevant to this action and

acted directly or indirectly as Plaintiff's employer.

11.

The Defendant, Kevin Jameson, as president of Pure Air Filtration, LLC, upon information and belief, asserts control over the operation and employment issues of Defendant, Pure Air Filtration, LLC.

12.

Upon information and belief Defendants have more than twenty (20) employees who handle, sell, or otherwise work on goods or materials that have been moved in or produced for commerce.

13.

Upon information and belief Defendants have gross revenues in excess of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) per year.

14.

Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa was employed as a machine/chemical operator by Defendants from February 2011 to July 2014.

15.

From on or about September 15, 2011 until July 15, 2014, Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa worked for Defendants at an hourly rate of \$11.00 per hour.

16.

Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa worked an average of sixty (60) hours per week from on or about February 1, 2011 until on or about July 31, 2014.

17.

Plaintiff had no written contract of employment with Defendants.

18.

At all relevant times to this action, Defendants did not pay Plaintiff on a salary basis. He was paid at his regular hourly rate for hours worked.

19.

Upon information and belief Defendants paid all of his employees, other than Plaintiff, overtime premiums.

IV.

#### **CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

#### FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

20.

The Plaintiff adopt, incorporate by reference, and re-allege paragraphs 1 through 8 and 10 through 19 of this Complaint for Damages as if originally set forth fully herein.

21.

At all times relevant to this action, Plaintiff was an hourly employee and was non-exempt from the overtime pay requirements as afforded by the FLSA, 29 U.S.C. §§ 201 et seq.

22.

The Plaintiff often worked in excess of fifty (50) hours per week throughout the duration of his employment with Defendants, but he was not paid by Defendants for his overtime work.

23.

The Defendants were required in accordance with the FLSA to pay Plaintiff one and one-half times his regular hourly rate of pay for his overtime work.

24.

The Defendants failed to pay Plaintiff one and one-half times his regular rate of pay for each hour worked over forty (40) hours in a week. Instead, Defendants only paid Plaintiff his regular hourly rate of pay for hours worked over forty (40) hours in a week.

25.

The Defendants' unlawful acts, omissions, and practices concerning the terms, conditions, and provisions of Plaintiff's employment violate the FLSA.

26.

As a result of Defendants' unlawful acts, omissions, and practices, Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa suffered a loss of wages of \$15,180.00 or such other amount to be determined at trial.

27.

The Defendants' willful violation of the FLSA shows reckless disregard of Plaintiff's right to receive appropriate overtime compensation for his work for Defendant.

#### VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court:

- 1. Grant Plaintiff a trial by jury as to all triable issues of fact;
- 2. Enter Judgment against Defendants, joint and severally liable for an amount equal to Plaintiff's unpaid back wages at the applicable overtime rate for each hour worked over forty (40) hours a week, or \$15,180.00 for Plaintiff Ysaias Espinosa, pursuant to the FLSA §§ 6 and 7, 29 U.S.C. §§ 206(d) and 207;
- 3. Enter Judgment against Defendants jointly and severally liable for an equal amount as mandated liquidated damages as provided by 29 U.S.C. § 216;
- 5. Enter Judgment against Defendants jointly and severally liable for pre-judgment interest

on the unpaid wages pursuant to 29 U.S.C. § 216;

- 6. Order Defendants, jointly and severally liable, to pay all costs of this action as well as reasonable attorney's fees as provided under FLSA § 216;
- Award Plaintiff such further and additional relief as the Court deems just and equitable.
   Respectfully submitted this 30th day of March, 2016.

Leon & Kim, LLC Attorney for Plaintiff

Brian Kim

Georgia Bar No. 479330

1815 Satellite Blvd. #303 Duluth, GA 30097

P: 678-878-4200 F: 678-878-4208

E: Brian@leonandkim.com

FILED IN OFFICE CLERK STATE COURT CWINNETT COUNTY, GA

General Civil Case Filing Inform	mation Form (Non-Domestic) ZUIGHAR 30 PH 1: 03
Court County Guinnett  Superior  State  County Guinnett  Docket # 160 017	Date Filed 03 - 30 - 20 6 MM-DD-YYYYICHARD ALEXANDER, CLERK
Plaintiff(s)	Defendant(s)
Espinosa SAIAS  Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden	PURE AIR FILTRATION, LL C Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden  TAMESON, KEUIN  Last First Middle I. Suffix Prefix Maiden
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No. of Plaintiffs	No. of Defendants 2
Plaintiff/Petitioner's Attorney  Pro Se    Pro Se	
Check Primary Type (Check only ONE)	If Tort is Case Type: (Check no more than TWO)
☐ Contract/Account ☐ Wills/Estate ☐ Real Property	☐ Auto Accident ☐ Premises Liability
□ Dispossessory/Distress	☐ Medical Malpractice
☐ Presonal Property	Other Professional Negligence
□ Equity	☐ Product Liability
☐ Habeas Corpus	Other Specify
☐ Appeals, Reviews	
☐ Post Judgement Garnishment, Attachment, or Other Relief	Are Punitive Damages Pleaded?   Yes   No
☐ Non-Domestic Contempt	
☐ Tort (If tort, fill in right column)	I hereby certify that the documents in this filing (including attachments and exhibits) satisfy the
Other General Civil Specify FAIR LABOR	requirements for redaction of personal or confidential information in O.C.G.A. 9-11-7.1
STANDARD ACT	confidential information in c.c.cs. 17 17 11

CIVIL ACTION NO. 160 01715-2  DATE FILED 3/30/16  ATTORNEY OR PLAINTIFF(s), ADDRESS & TELEPHONE NUMBER	[] MAGISTRATE [ DISTATE [ ] SUPERIOR - COURT GWINNETT COUNTY, GEORGIA  YSA7AS Espinosa
- BRIAN KIM 1815 Satellite Blud. # 303 Duluty, GA 30097 678) 878- 4200	PLAINTIFF(S) VS.  PUM ATL FILTRATION, LLC  LEATH JAMPSON  DEFENDANT(S)
NAME, ADDRESS & TELEPHONE # OF PARTY TO BE SERVED  KELLYN JONNESON	ZOIG HAR
AS ACTENT OF PURE AIR FILTRATION 6050 Peachther Plany #240-187 November, GA 3009)	Other attached documents to be served:
678) 935-143/	TRY OF SERVICE
PERSONAL Upon the following named defendant:      NOTORIOUS Upon defendant  By leaving a copy of the action and summons at the most notorious p  Delivered the same to	lace of abode in the county.
yrs; approximate weightpounds; approximate height	feet andinches, domicited at residence of the defendant.
[ ] CORPORATION Upon corporation	2010 CHA
By servingplace of business of the corporation in this county.	× 1 au
By serving	⇒, its registered agent.
[ ] TACK & MAIL By posting a copy of the same to the door of the same day of such posting, by depositing a true copy of the same in the addressed to the defendant(s) at the address shown in the summons summons at the place stated in the summons.	ne United States mail First Class mail, in an envelope properly
[ H NON EST Did not serve because after a diligent search the defe	endant could not be found in the jurisdiction of the court.
Kerin Juneson - address Unable to locate Det @	
This day ofApril	20 16. Down J. Bowen 5233

# IN THE STATE COURT OF GWINNETT COUNTY STATE OF GEORGIA

YSAIAS ESPINOSA

CIVIL ACTION NUMBER 16-C-01715-S2

**PLAINTIFF** 

VS.

PURE AIR FILTRATION LLC KEVIN JAMESON

**DEFENDANT** 

#### **SUMMONS**

#### TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:

You are hereby summoned and required to file with the Clerk of Said Court and serve upon the Plaintiff's attorney, whose name and address is:

BRIAN GENE KIM 1815 SATELLITE BLVD SUITE 303 LEON & KIM LLC DULUTH, GA 30097

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 30 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint.

This 13th day of June, 2016.

Richard T. Alexander, Jr.

Clerk of State Court

Denuty Clerk

# 7.1 CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

Pursuant to L.R. 7.1D of the Northern District of Georgia, I hereby certify that this document was prepared in Times New Roman font, 14 point, pursuant to L.R. 5.1(C).

This 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

By: /s/Anandhi S. Rajan
Anandhi S. Rajan
Georgia State Bar No. 592760
Attorneys for Defendants Pure Air
Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson

SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP The Peachtree, Suite 300 1355 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3231 Telephone: (404) 874-8800

Facsimile: (404) 888-6199

Anandhi.Rajan@swiftcurrie.com

### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day caused a copy of the within and foregoing **NOTICE OF REMOVAL** to be filed with the Clerk of Court via the ECF filing procedure, which will notify and serve a copy of same to the following counsel of record, as follows:

Brian Kim, Esq. Leon & Kim, LLC 1815 Satellite Boulevard, Suite 303 Duluth, GA 30097

This 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP

By: \_\_/s/Anandhi S. Rajan\_\_\_\_ ANANDHI S. RAJAN Georgia State Bar No. 592760 Attorney for Defendants Pure Air Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson

The Peachtree, Suite 300 1355 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30309-3231 (404) 874-8800

# **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this day served a copy of the within and foregoing **NOTICE OF FILING NOTICE OF REMOVAL** upon all counsel of record in this action, via U.S. Mail, postage pre-paid, and addressed as follows:

Brian Kim, Esq. Leon & Kim, LLC 1815 Satellite Boulevard, Suite 303 Duluth, GA 30097

This 19th day of July, 2016.

SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP

By: \_\_/s/Anandhi S. Rajan\_\_\_\_ ANANDHI S. RAJAN Georgia State Bar No. 592760 Attorney for Defendants Pure Air Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson

The Peachtree, Suite 300 1355 Peachtree Street, N.E. Atlanta, GA 30309-3231 (404) 874-8800

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Georgia State Bar No. 592760
Attorneys for Defendants Pure Air
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This 19<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2016.

SWIFT, CURRIE, McGHEE & HIERS, LLP

By: \_\_/s/Anandhi S. Rajan\_ ANANDHI S. RAJAN Georgia State Bar No. 592760 Attorney for Defendants Pure Air Filtration, LLC and Kevin Jameson

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